

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: MID-TERM EXCHANGES REVIEW: CLOSING SESSION

REF: BUCHAREST 795

1. MID-TERM REVIEW OF US-ROMANIAN CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES PROGRAM CLOSED AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 12 WITH BRIEF CEREMONY AND REMARKS BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GLIGA, AND EUR/EE OFFICE DIRECTOR ANDREWS. ANDREWS NOTED THAT EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR SUCH PERIODIC EXCHANGES OF VIEWS. HE MENTIONED NEED FOR BETTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BOTH SIDES, AND FOR A BETTER IDEA OF PRIORITIES SINCE BOTH SIDES ARE STILL NOT USING OUR RESOURCES AS WELL AS WE SHOULD. ANDREWS SAID WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY INTERPRETATION OF DECREE 95 GIVEN BY ROMANIANS, AND BY AGREEMENT THAT SHORT-TERM VISITS SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED. HE POINTED OUT BOTH SIDES ALSO HAVE REAFFIRMED THAT PRIVATE, DIRECT COOPERATION PROVIDES A USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO OFFICIAL PROGRAMS AND CITED SUCCESSFULLY ESTABLISHED PROGRAM BETWEEN MANKATOSTATE
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COLLEGE AND CLUJ (BUCHAREST 0694) AS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF

SUCH COOPERATION.

2. MR. HARTMAN CONCLUDED REMARKS FOR U.S. SIDE BY STATING HE WAS PLEASED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SUCH A "GOOD DISCUSSION

IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION." EXCHANGES PROVIDE A BASIS FOR IMPROVING POLITICAL TIES, MR. HARTMAN SAID. HE ALSO NOTED THAT GLIGA'S VISIT HAS PROVIDED AN EXTREMELY USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO BOTH PARTIES.

3. GLIGA RESPONDED BY SAYING HE FULLY SUBSCRIBED TO US SIDE'S COMMENTS AND THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THE VALUE OF THE TALKS AS WE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION OF EXCHANGES IN 1976 AND SEEK A BETTER DESIGN FOR THE 1977-78 PROGRAM. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF RECIPROCITY, FRANKNESS, AND COOPERATION AT ALL LEVELS AND IN ALL FIELDS IN OUR RELATIONS. GLIGA EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THE HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO HIM AND TO HIS DELEGATION.

4. NEW SUBJECT: ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION IN SMITHSONIAN FOLKLORE FESTIVAL (BUCHAREST 0795). AS NOTED IN SEPTEL, MINISTER GLIGA STATED IN HIS OPENING REMARKS THAT WHILE ROMANIANS REGRET IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO FIND THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO ENSURE THAT THE BULANDRA THEATER COMPANY CAN VISIT THE UNITED STATES THIS YEAR, HE WAS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO STATE THAT THERE WOULD BE ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE SMITHSONIAN FOLKLORE FESTIVAL. HE REPEATED THIS ASSURANCE TO MR. HARTMAN FEBRUARY 13. WHEN MITRAN WAS SHOWN REFTEL REPORTING MINISTRY OF TOURISM STATEMENT THAT INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR FOLK GROUP NOT POSSIBLE, MITRAN SCOWLED AND MUTTERED "THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT." EMBASSY MAY FEEL FREE TO UTILIZE GLIGA'S ASSURANCES IN THIS REGARD AS APPROPRIATE IN FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT IN BUCHAREST.

5. REPORT OF THURSDAY AM DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE II OF EXCHANGES PROGRAM WILL FOLLOW SEPTEL. KISSINGER
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